

WAR TIME IS HARDLY A TIME TO ALLOW INCREASES IN RATE CHARGES

THE city council won the people's approval by refusing the gas company's request for authority to fix a meter charge upon gas consumers in order to provide more revenue for the company. The council held that the audit of the company's books did not disclose a real need for additional revenue. It held that the gas company has been paying dividends upon "watered stock," a needless burden upon the consumers. In this view, the committee of nearly 100 housewives agreed very heartily. This committee had been investigating also and reported that the company's plea of advancing costs did not appear to be borne out by the payroll or the cost of fuel.

What steps the gas company may now take to increase its revenue—for it still contends its application was entirely just and well founded—have not been announced. The point now evident is that the consumers of El Paso will not agree to any raise in rates by a public utility until they have been shown the application is reasonable and well founded. The gas company did not convince them of the fairness of the request.

The gas company failed utterly to make a showing, in the opinion of the council and of the consumers, and it is up to the street car company to be far more convincing if it expects to put over the six-cent fare.

Corporations should not be made to lose money; no city can afford to bring about such a condition, for capital and its investment is necessary to the progress and welfare of a community or a nation. But only a fair return on an actual investment should be permitted and there should be no watered stock to take care of in the consideration.

In times like these, if earnings are cut down, the corporation is suffering no more than the individual. Everybody has less these days—unless it be the munitions workers and a few other favored of the laboring or artisan class—than before the war. We are making sacrifices we never made before and we are being called upon to make more and we shall be called upon to make still more. There is no reason why the corporations should not bear a few burdens, too? Is there a reason why their dividends should continue to be made fat while individuals scratch and work and save to get along and help the government by buying Liberty bonds and thrift and war savings stamps and aiding the Red Cross, the Y. M. C. A. and other institutions for winning the war?

Many a business man in many a community who was making money before the war, will be glad if he pulls through without having to go into the bankruptcy courts. Many a family will be glad if it can weather the storm and have all the clothes it needs and all the food and fuel it requires, and at the same time do what is expected of it and what it wants to do, in an effort to help win the war. This is particularly true in families where adult male members have been called to the colors and the earning capacity of the family has thus been greatly reduced.

There is then really no excuse for granting increases to corporations in rates if they are making expenses and some profit on the investment—on a fair outlay that means real cash invested. Even if the corporations stand to lose all their profits during the war, they are not suffering worse than the average individual, for many individuals will be ruined financially and will also give up their lives at the same time fighting. The man who comes out at the end of the war with as much as he had when it began, will be fortunate.

After this war there is going to be a readjustment of things. There is time enough for corporations to talk of more profits, unless they are prepared to show that they are actually losing money now. El Pasoans do not want any of their public service corporations to lose money and if they are operating at losses, a fair increase should and will be granted, once the actual cash investment is established and the actual cost of operation is proved—but not until then. Where there is any margin of profit, no further burden should be imposed upon the people at this time.

The war has had many aims to stand for that have not been committed by the Kaiser. It looks to many as if every time some person or some corporation feels like gouging the public, the war is used as a camouflage behind which to hide.

But the war has hit the rest of the people as well as

the corporations and those individuals who would use it as a cloak for more profits, and until such time as the people can afford to pay more, they must not be made to do so, except in necessity to keep a corporation out of bankruptcy.

Why A "Gasless Sunday"?

THEY have gasless Sundays in the east now and it is said that they will be here soon. El Pasoans have been warned to be ready for it.

Why gasless SUNDAYS? Why not put the gasoline regulations upon the same basis as sugar and flour? Why tell a man WHEN he may use gas? Why not tell him he can have as much gas as he wants and LET HIM USE IT WHEN HE WISHES? If it is necessary to conserve the gasoline supply, Americans will willingly join in the conservation. If it is necessary to tell the man who has been using 20 gallons of gasoline a week that he may only have 12 or even 10, then do so, but WHY tell him WHEN he may use it?

In this southwestern country, The Herald will venture the assertion that 90 percent of the families owning automobiles get most GOOD out of their cars on Sundays. On Sunday the whole family usually makes use of the car—for Sunday school, for church attendance, for picnics and recreation. That is the one day of the week that the car is NEEDED.

The average family would be willing to forego the use of the car ANY day in the week—any TWO DAYS in the week, in order to have it for use on Sunday, when ALL THE FAMILY can enjoy it and get physical benefit from it.

Too much work and no recreation is had for people anywhere any time. With the use of automobiles restricted to the week days, very few families would get the REAL benefits from their cars that they should get. The working members of the family cannot get recreation during the week; Sunday is their only time.

Some narrow minded ministers have attacked the automobile as the great enemy of religion, asserting that the Sunday excursion in the car is keeping people away from church. For the few who may stay away from church because of the possession of an automobile, there are scores who attend for the same reason—because it is easy to get to church in a car. Stop the automobiles on Sunday and watch the falling off in church attendance.

A recreational ride by the whole family in the car after church is not a sin, and there is hardly a family in El Paso owning an automobile that does not take such a ride every Sunday. The contemplated "gasless Sunday" would prevent this; it would be a serious blow to the health and peace of mind of many people.

Let us have a regulation of the use of gasoline by all means, if that is necessary, and everybody will cheerfully accept the situation, but let the people use their allotment of gasoline when they please.

Mr. Hoover has taken this position in making sugar allotments. Why not assume that users of gasoline have as much sense as and an equal right with sugar users?

The Hohenzollerns now realize what it means to start something you can't stop.

Rhine wine has almost disappeared, but there is still such a thing as the Rhine wine.

Rain falls alike on the just and the unjust, but mighty little of it on the just of west Texas. And the unjust are stepping using it as a chaser.

"Rompén los Ingleses otra vez la línea Hindenburg," says El Universal, of Mexico City. And they're romping on it more and more every day.

A headline says the French have captured 7000 prisoners in a brilliant Champagne drive. Hats off to the French. That's more than anybody ever accomplished in any of the brilliant champagne drives around these parts.

Little Interviews

Make the Disloyal Alien Respect the U. S. Flag, Says Culwell Autoists Better Get Their Lights In Good Order Next Week

"It is time to make the disloyal alien in our midst respect our flag," said A. H. Culwell. "By force, we have to make those who do not respect our flag subject to respect us. It is the duty of every citizen to report to the proper authorities any outward sign of disrespect to our country and our flag on the part of enemies within our midst. Our flag stands for the greatest measure of freedom on earth and it should command the respect of all under its folds."

"Beginning next week, there will be special efforts made by county speed

officers to put a stop to autoists running about at night with only one headlight or without tail lights," said J. G. Sperry. "The law is specific on this point, and inasmuch as the practice is dangerous to other traffic, it has to be broken up. Strenuous efforts will be made to break up the practice."

"A division of American troops that came into the service last September was sent into action about July 20, 1918, at the battle of St. Mihiel. The German drive when it was at its highest degree of fury," said H. C. Spenser, of San Antonio. "This division met the shock troops of the Imperial German government, held them and drove them back across the Marne towards Berlin. Less than ten months before, they were the most vicious of the men of that division were farmers, dry goods clerks and cattlemen. It seems that a miracle has been performed. Many people believe that it is impossible to make a soldier out of a civilian within eight or ten months' time. I do not feel that it is possible to make a soldier out of a civilian. All I know is that these Americans met the best trained troops the world ever saw, when these troops were in the highest enthusiasm, and defeated them. Call it training, a miracle, or what not, the fact remains."

"The work of the home service branch of the American Red Cross is not so well known as is desirable. It is organized to look after the families of our soldiers and sailors," said Mrs. S. P. Skinner, its head in El Paso. "Common humanity impels us who stay behind to stand guard over the soldiers' or sailors' homes as vigilantly as they stand guard in the trenches or on battlefields. As one of our Red Cross journals says, 'We have sent them to fight the foes of liberty for us, therefore we must fight the foe of hunger, misery, loneliness and disease for them. Home service is a sacred duty. Home service means courage and comfort to the fighting men, cheer and comfort to their families. While he fights for our homes, we safeguard his. Home service is patriotism. At the festival of the Allied next week, the home service will have a booth, where some of the workers will be constantly on duty to explain the aims and work of the section, and it is hoped that the public will ask questions freely. The El

Abe Martin



A NEW endless towel is makin' a war to run at the new Palace hotel. Who remembers when only children stole sugar?

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Uncle Walt's Denatured Poem.

Autumn Leaves

THE leaves will soon be falling down, regardless of the coat; the grass will soon be turning brown, nipped by the eager frost. The lovely flowers will hear their knell when frost gleams on the lawn, and soon the flies we love so well will all be dead and gone. All wilting are the gorgeous plants that lately graced the soil, and soon the chiggers and the ants will cease their useful toil. The summer's gone, the autumn's here, and soon, get you how soon, we'll see the passing of the year, with church bells all at one time. Some day from artistic wastes there'll roll a blizzard wearing bells, and scores of folks will rush for coal, to where the dealer dwells. "Send us nine pounds of coal," they'll cry, "regardless of the price! Our ants and children freeze and die, our shacks are cold as ice!" And then the dealer, honest soul, will cry, "Gadooks, Odsblood! I am entirely out of coal, and so your name is Mud. For months, it's grievous to relate, the dealers begged in vain, that you would buy your winter slate while slate you could obtain. The government backed up our spiel, and begged you, 'Buy your coal!' And now the dealer does not deal—he has no goods to dole." The winter time will soon be sent, its storms will soon begin, and sad will be the freezing gent who has an empty bin.

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Parisian Women Wait to Put on Hats Before Going to Raid Shelter

Paris, France, Sept. 28.—Parisian women wait to put their hats on before going to raid shelter for shelter from air raids. This furnishes unanswerable proof as to how little Paris is disturbed by the activities of the boche aviators who make it frequent visits. I was in the lobby of one of the smartest of the small hotels in the open district the other night just after midnight when the sirens sounded the alert. I expected a wild and disordered rush for the cellar. Nothing of the kind.

Ice Cream and Doughnuts Served At Dublin Club

Dublin, Ireland, Sept. 28.—The American Soldiers' club, established here by the American Red Cross, is probably the only place on this side of the water where real American doughnuts and ice cream are part of the bill of fare.

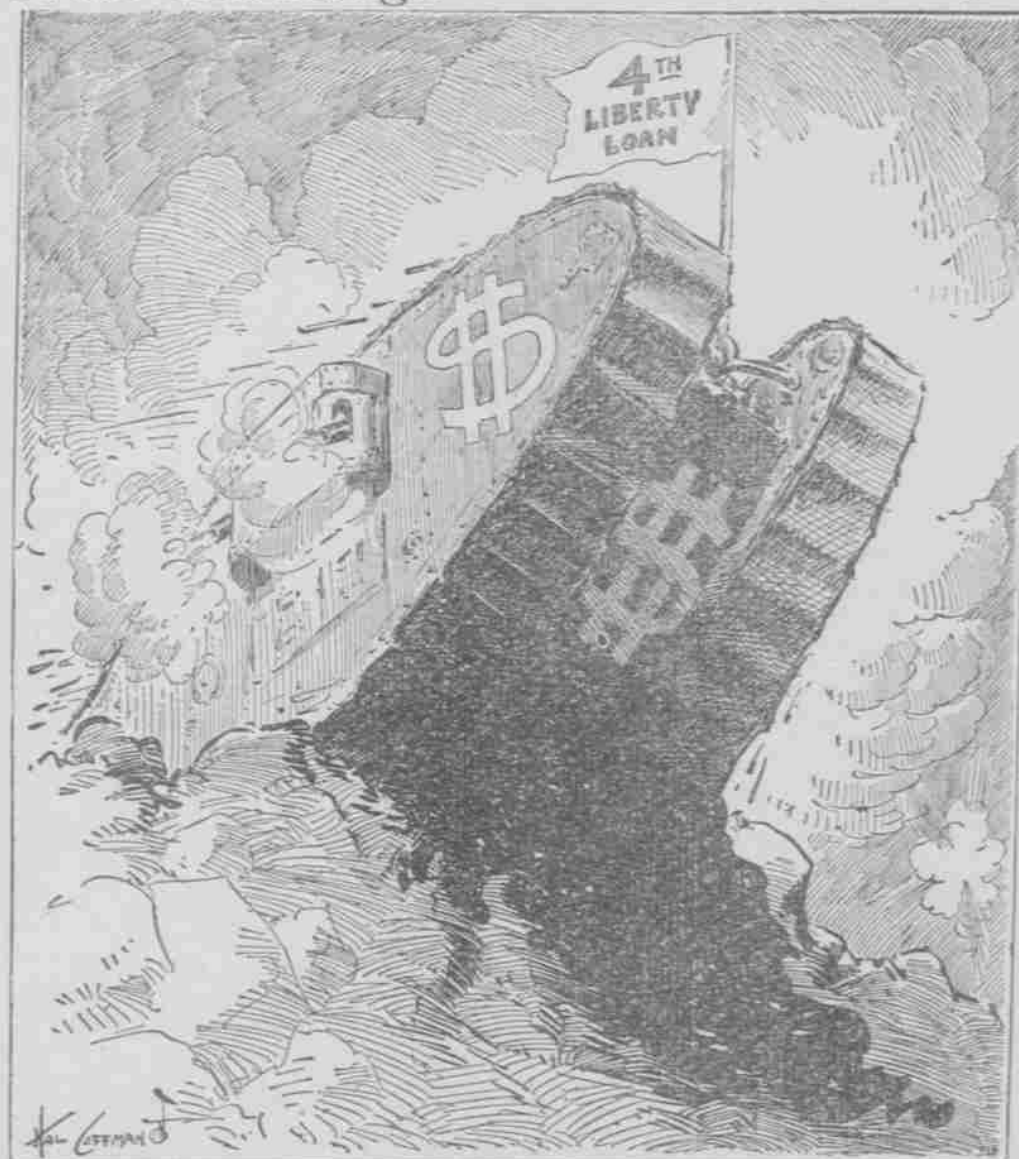
The club is located in the center of the city, on King street, and is open daily from noon until 10 o'clock at night. American women are constantly in attendance. The club is in charge of a committee headed by the countess of Granard.

Dudley Goes Calling, But Meets a Burglar

Cleveland, Ohio, Sept. 28.—Dudley Field went over to see his uncle, C. W. Field, on a recent evening. He arrived after it had become quite dark and when he got to the door he found the door closed and found it unlocked. Thinking to find some one within, he walked in and found some one. A real live burglar had got there first and when he finished beating and kicking Field into unconsciousness he snatched him, took his money and got away. Some time later, members of the family returned and released him.

Treat 'Em Rough

By Hal Coffman



The Young Lady Across The Way



"The young lady across the way says she guesses every effort is being made to deliver the soldiers' mail promptly, as she sees by the paper that large forces of men are guarding our lines of communication."

Practically all the clerical jobs in St. Louis have been held by women.

14 Years Ago Today

From The Herald of This Date, 1904.

It was reported from Port Arthur that the Japanese have lost two war ships and a steamer by contact with mines, and that a cruiser was badly damaged.

Dispatches from St. Petersburg express the belief that if Kuropatkin tries to hold Mukden, fighting may be expected there almost immediately. Oyama's armies now cover a front of 60 miles.

Thomas E. Watson, Populist candidate for president, suffered a physical breakdown after delivering his address at Jackson, Miss., yesterday and had to be conveyed in a carriage to his hotel.

The Chicago, Rock Island and Pacific railroad has practically closed down its car and locomotive shops in Chicago. Fifteen hundred men are thrown out of work.

At the navy department today the statement was made that the special guard now stationed around the battleship Connecticut, which is to be launched at the navy yard at New York tomorrow, was increased some weeks ago because of the discovery of a defect in the ways, which gave the department considerable concern.

In a 20 round fight between "Ed" McCoy and "Doc" Sullivan in Los Angeles last night, they went the limit and McCoy got the decision. Eugene Heuser, a Mexico City piano man, recently obtained a patent from the U. S. government on fuel made of oil and sawdust.



LEND AS THEY HAVE GIVEN BUY U. S. LIBERTY BONDS

Short Snatches From Everywhere

The time when Germany should have yearned for peace was in July, 1914—Washington Post.

France feels a cheerful confidence that the Germans are now saying goodbye and not an revoir—Springfield Republican.

What will those German ships carry, which are being built for trade after the war, and where will they carry it?—Boston Herald.

Nothing finer has come out of the war than this line from an epitaph in a British graveyard in France: "For your tomorrow they gave their today."—Buffalo Express.

Gen. Horne was the first British commander to butt a hole in the Hindenburg line. Gen. Horne and Gen. Byng ought to make a pretty good combination.—Wichita Beacon.

The Hindenburg, Seigfried, Quent-Ducourt, or Wotan line don't mean so much to us—it's the Hindenburg line we're going to bust—San Francisco Chronicle.

If there is anything higher than the cost of food in Russia, it must be the life insurance rates.—Newark News.

Some say the war is to be decided on eastern soil, the western front. Evidently it is Foch's intention to merge these two fronts by driving the one in upon the other.—Chicago Daily News.

Tanks Not Big Enough to Accommodate Edmund

Seattle, Wash., Sept. 28.—After spending the summer in Alaska, Edmund, Edward Raffner, 15 years old, walked into the recruiting office of the tank service here and asked that he be given a chance to fight the Hun from inside one of Uncle Sam's tanks. The recruiting officer took his measure, which is six feet six inches. His weight is 203 pounds. Then the officers shook their heads. They could find no record of a tank large enough to house such a tank. He was rejected.

Getting a Divorce Is Not Hard, But Often It's Very Poor Policy

Even When a Woman Has Plenty of Grounds For Securing Freedom, It Often Does Not Pay; Hardships For Woman and Children Follow.

BY BEATRICE FAIRFAX.

A WOMAN has written to me asking my advice in regard to getting a divorce. And while she has evidence that would entitle her to her freedom in any court in the country, I hesitate, for her own sake, to advise her to proceed.

Getting a divorce is frequently the equivalent of that childish maxim, "Cutting off your nose to spite your face." Freedom is exactly what the guilty party is looking for—freedom to go his own gait undisturbed by a woman who no longer interests him. And unless he is a public man whose reputation is likely to suffer by the publicity involved in the scandal of the wronged wife may be doing him the greatest possible favor in giving him his freedom.

But a woman in the frying pan seldom reaches on the greater discomfort of the fire. Her immediate is to escape her intolerable position at any price, which she does often, only to find that she has made things infinitely worse.

This is especially true where there are children who are frequently the worse sufferers from the results of a divided home. A glance at the daily papers must convince any woman that to collect alimony from a man, not a millionaire, is about as easy as freezing cream without ice. The court awards the longer suffering wife alimony, but it is a matter to collect it.

And many a man and woman who have never been able to make good have traced their misfortune in life to this source. So for her children's sake, if not for her own a woman should consider well every phase of a divorce before she takes it.

The war which has started a boom in many industries has not caused by the divorce mill, and the connection is not far to seek. For the first time the untrained, middle-aged woman is able to earn money, and old indignities assume new proportions, and with them fresh possibilities of redress.

Why should I stand this when I am able to earn my own living?" "But," I hastened to ask her, "Will you be able to earn your living when the war is over and you are that much older, and more tired than you are now?"

As an antidote to these straight facts, there is usually somewhere in the background, the well-mean-

ing but impudent friend whose advice is as heron to the burning house. She is quite sure that in Jane's place she would not put up with this miserable moment longer.

Yet this lady would assume a highly petulant expression if Jane suggested coming to her for a visit while the domestic situation was being adjusted.

Lavish With Advice. She is lavish with advice, she is only too willing to lend a hand in tearing up the domestic hearstone, but she would be the last person on earth to do anything practical for Jane or her children.

She belongs to that large company of chartered wreckers who will supply all the dynamite that is needed to blow up any home, or anything else that is ungrateful and in running order—she enjoys the drama of that—but she never suggests anything whatever in the way of reconstruction.

"But," she will argue, "should a woman put up with a situation that entitles her to a divorce, where is her independence, where is her character, where is her moral sense?"

She is probably right, but going to horrify you by replying: "Some of these sentiments are the privileges of the poor, or the near poor, as is absurd as for a doctor to prescribe a daily riding in a limousine for a common earning of a few dollars a month."

And a woman who gives her youth to child bearing and child rearing, whipping house and administering the family affairs is entitled to care in her middle and declining years. If a woman has talent, has brains, has the financially independent claim that is another matter, and she can choose her own course as well as a woman of her class.

But for a woman who has put her entire capital of youth and strength into a home, and who has assembled it in a fit of righteous indignation, it is too much like a child wrecking her doll's house, and she is "mad" with the boy next door.

So I am going to beg the little woman who has written me such a faithful letter to stand aside her home too lightly. Middle aged beginnings are hard things. She may try to get on with her life, but when the war is over and you are that much older, and more tired than you are now?"

John did—John was—John is! This is not a fable, but a happening.

Returns Stolen Money Before Going to Fight

Manassas, Pa., Sept. 28.—"I am about to sail for over there and I feel as though I will never come back. Fourteen years ago I stole a pocketbook for \$11 and I want to square up. I hope you and God will forgive a badly anxious boy. I am sending you \$11 for a little interest. I am on my last furlough. This was the letter which accompanied the envelope received by Mrs. Nicholas Stoffel. Her conscience relieved, some "lonely soldier boy" is on his way to fight the Hun.

Kills Hun With Bayonet, Then He Captures Seven

Emporia, Kan., Sept. 28.—Latter received here from private Michael Dominiaguis will receive a decoration for an exploit in the recent fighting in France in which the private, single-handed, after killing a boche during a bayonet duel took captive two German officers.

Dominiaguis, who is a mixture of Spanish and French, although born in France, was in a hospital recovering from a gas attack. He enlisted last summer in the regular army.

DAILY RECORD.

Deaths Filed.

Altura Park addition—W. Cooley to Panay I. Latta, lots 17 to 20, in block 29, on Memphis street, \$200; Sept. 28, 1918.

Government Hill addition—Mayfield Building Co. to J. R. Parish, lot 3 and half of lot 9, in block 25, on La Luz street, \$250; Sept. 18, 1918.

San Elmarie grant—Anthony J. Schuler to Geo. Culum, 7.02 acres, \$1, Aug. 27, 1918.

Building Permits Issued. J. A. Baldree, 2523 San Diego street, brick addition to frame house, \$150.

M. L. Cordova, 111 South El Paso street, repairs, \$150.

Licensed to Marry. Oscar Caballero and Marie Zepeda, Domingo Cocona and Francisca Arroya.

Edward Smith and Agnes Palmer. Tomas Salinas and Francisca Franco.

DEAR MR. KASIBBLE,

I'M GOING TO PROPOSE TO A GIRL WHO I GIVE MY REAT TO EVERY MORNING IN THE TRAIN—WHAT IF SHE REFUSES? SIT IN THE SMOKE WHERE YOU BELONG! LEO ARPIN.

EL PASO HERALD

DEDICATED TO THE SERVICE OF THE PEOPLE, THAT NO GOOD CAUSE SHALL LACK A CHAMPION, AND THAT EVIL SHALL NOT THRIVE UNOPPOSED.

H. D. Slater, editor and controlling owner, has directed The Herald for 29 years. J. C. Williams, J. B. Monahan and J. A. Martin are Editors.

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